

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY CHILDREN'S NETWORK

Policy Council Minutes October 23, 2002

Members/Representatives Present:

- Charles Adams, Community Services Department
- Roberta York, Preschool Services Department
- Clark Morrow, San Bernardino Sheriff's Dept.
- Ray Wingerd, Chief of Probation
- Ed Rowe, Children's Network
- Bruce Davis, 3rd District Board of Supervisors Representative
- Honorable Rex Victor, Juvenile Court
- Kent Paxton, Children's Network Officer
- Carol Anselmi, HSS Administration
- Cathy Cimbalo, Director of Children's Services
- Joyce Lewis, Department of Behavioral Health
- Paula Roby, Department of Behavioral Health
- Eric Frykman, Department of Public Health
- Tom Prendergast, Department of Public Health
- Andrew Gruchy, Department of Behavioral Health
- Don Larkin, Executive Director, Children and Families Commission
- Gerald Farber, Public Defender Office
- Bonnie O'Connor, Executive Director, Children's Fund
- Susan Melanson, Children's Network
- Jeff Broyde, Public Defender's Office
- Bonnie Konowitch, Children's Network
- Terry Kramer, Department of Behavioral Health
- Rudy Lopez, Director of Department of Behavioral Health
- Claudia Spencer, Department of Public Health
- Veronica Hilton, Department of Children's Services – ARD
- Jeronimo Breen, Department of Behavioral Health
- Thomas Laurin, HSS, Administration
- Doug Payne, Economic, Community Development
- Tammy Williams, Children's Network

The meeting of the Children's Network Policy Council was called to order at 12:05 p.m. and convened by Honorable Rex Victor in the Citrus Room, fifth Floor, County Government Center.

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Honorable Rex Victor welcomed those present and self-introductions were made.

2.0 Distribution of Draft 2002 Children's Network Annual Report

Kent Paxton referred everyone to the draft of the Children's Annual Report. **Susan Melanson asked that the group review it and get any suggestions and/or corrections to her before the next Children's Network Policy Council Meeting on November 27th.** The report cannot be e-mailed so if you need more copies, please feel free to contact Tammy Williams at (909) 387-5365 for additional copies.

3.0 Children's Fund Christmas Update

Bonnie O'Connor reported they are very busy getting ready for the Holiday season. She asked the participants and their staff to please assist them with the adoptions of the many needy children they are trying to serve in this county. Please contact Children's Fund if you can assist them with their effort by calling them at (909) 387-4949.

4.0 Children's Network 2003 Priorities

Kent Paxton introduced Denise Walker of PERC (Performance, Education, Resource Center). Denise reported they provide customized training for County employees and the community. Denise has expertise in Organizational Development, Strategic Development, etc.

Denise referred everyone to their agenda packets, which included Children's Network 2002 Annual Work Plan. Also, enclosed in their packet was the statement: "Given your commitment to improve outcomes for at-risk children and considering what you know about current and emerging political, economic and social realities, what are the most important things the Children's Policy Council can focus its efforts on during 2003?"

Denise went over the **Process:**

- Participants were split up into teams
- Participants were asked to brainstorm their ideas
- Participants were asked to focus on three to five ideas in which to focus our efforts in 2003
- A spokesperson is to be selected from each team to present and defend their teams' recommendations
- The presentation will be divided by: description, rationale, anticipated outcome
- The team will be asked to vote on one main idea
- The presentations will be recorded and brought back to the next Policy Council Meeting on November 27, 2002.

Group	Recommendation Description	Rationale	Anticipated Outcome
1	1. Protection of funding 2. High Visibility Public Relations 3. Blend/Braided funding 4. Prevention	Anticipating reduced funding	
1	Avoiding duplication / increase interface	More comprehensive local continuum of care	1. More/better coordination/more compliance 2. More effective use of funds
1	Placement resources – Medical homes, drug and alcohol, Level 14 (out-of-home care)		1. Increase access of existing group home beds in county for San Bernardino Children. 2. Reduce out-of-county placements and associated costs 3. Local treatment more effective
2	Each discipline to provide plan on how they will target parenting (voluntary and mandatory) “Wraparound for Parents”	Primary determinate of Children’s outcomes	1. Services more available to parents 2. Reductions in school failure, abuse, improved child well-being measures, etc.
2	Perinatal Substance Abuse More access to services early and (health and behavioral health)	Interrupt cycle of ongoing health/behavioral health problem	Reduce Incidence of Drug Exposed Infants Better parenting, lower abuse/delinquency, behavioral health issues

Group	Recommendation Description	Rationale	Anticipated Outcome
3	1.Establish a cross-agency fiscal team whose job is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance to Children's Network/Policy Council • Assist Policy Council to make informed decisions regarding blending and maximizing use of funding and resources 	Would allow us to enlist agency fiscal staff to help us eliminate "silos" based upon funding issues	1. Strengthens collaboration 2. Makes better use of resources 3. Share responsibility for fiscal priorities
3	Define a comprehensive continuum of service for high/multiple need children & families & identify gaps & create a comprehensive system of services which includes our community-based resource network.	Allow us to serve children/families more effectively, timely based on need	1.Decrease interagency friction 2.Increase positive outcomes for children/families share responsibility with community
4	1.Target Department of Behavioral Health funding for youth, behavioral health intervention. 2.Reduce number of out-of-home placements – early intervention 3.Joint needs and joint planning assessments through Policy Council 4.Match needs and resources, countywide. 5.More Strategic planning around funding sources 6.Identify duplication and overlap of services		
4	Conduct a Needs and Asset assessment	Improve efficiency and effectiveness by determining where needs to be focused, and identifying unnecessary duplication	Strategic deployment of limited resources
4	Conduct joint interdepartmental strategic planning.	Need collective commitment and buy-in. More bang for the buck	Create blueprints for focusing services for children

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The group came up with these other brainstormed ideas:

- Economic downturn and its' affects
- Perinatal Drug Use
- Timed out Cal-Works
- Public Relations around Children's issues
- Improved Health Care Access
- School Issues
- Parenting
- Housing
- Specialized placement
- Evaluation
- Narrow to 1 – 3 things we do well – regional

5.0 Next Meeting: The group voted to go with the next regularly scheduled meeting date of: November 27, 2002

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Williams
Children's Network Policy Council Recording Secretary

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